

October 25, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
Room 383, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012



Dear Supervisors:

**ACCEPTANCE OF \$15,000 GRANT TO
FINANCE LOW-COST CAT SPAYING AND
NEUTERING SERVICES IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY
SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
3 VOTES**

Marcia Mayeda
Director

Administrative Office
5898 Cherry Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90805
(562) 728-4882
Fax (562) 422-3408
<http://animalcontrol.co.la.ca.us>



Shelter locations

11258 S. Garfield Ave.
Downey, CA 90242
(562) 940-6898

216 W. Victoria St.
Gardena, CA 90248
(310) 523-9566

4275 No. Elton
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
(626) 962-3577

5210 W. Avenue I
Lancaster, CA 93536
(661) 940-4191

31044 N. Charlie Cyn. Rd
Castaic, CA 91384
(661) 257-3191

29525 Agoura Rd.
Agoura, CA 91301
(818) 991-0071

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Authorize the Department of Animal Care and Control to accept, with gratitude, a \$15,000 grant from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) for the purpose of providing low-cost cat spay and neutering services to pet owners living in the Antelope Valley.
2. Instruct the Chairman to sign and forward a letter to the ASPCA expressing the Board's appreciation of this generous donation to assist pet population control efforts in the Antelope Valley.

JUSTIFICATION FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Department is pleased to inform the Board that the ASPCA is offering a \$15,000 grant to fund low-cost spay and neutering services to the owners of cats in the Antelope Valley.

The Department estimates the money will offset the cost of spaying 400 female cats and neutering 250 male cats.

Pet sterilization is a recognized and accepted method of helping reduce the many thousands of unwanted and stray animals that are housed and abandoned in the nation's animal shelters every year.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This grant funding promotes and furthers the County's goals of service excellence and organizational effectiveness.

FISCAL IMPACT

This grant will have no immediate fiscal impact on departmental operations. Over the long run, it will help reduce the number of surplus or unwanted kittens born in the Antelope Valley, meaning fewer such animals will have to be impounded, housed, and provided care.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS

The Department intends to use the grant funds to pay the salary of a licensed veterinarian to perform cat sterilization surgeries at the animal health clinic of the Lancaster Animal Shelter.

Pet owners residing in the Antelope Valley will have to co-pay \$10 per cat to have each animal spayed or neutered, with a limit of three animals per household. The County's fees for low-cost sterilizations is \$20 for male cats and \$25 for female cats. By charging pet owners \$10 per cat, the Department can extend the reach of the grant funding and sterilize more animals.

Also, in collaboration and support of this program, the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation, a nonprofit foundation that supports departmental outreach efforts, will partly subsidize cat health care inoculations for pets spayed or neutered under the program. Animal Care Foundation support will reduce the cost of health care shots to \$5 per animal, a reduction of almost 70% over the ordinary cost.

Additionally, the Foundation will purchase a surgery table and lamp at a cost of between \$1,500 and \$1,800 to facilitate the program.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

California Government Code Section 25355 permits the County to accept donations of the type offered by the ASPCA. Board policy requires that all donations over \$10,000 be approved by the Board as part of its regular agenda.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

None. The low-cost pet sterilization clinics will be conducted so as not to interfere with the normal operations of the Lancaster Shelter's animal health clinic.

CONCLUSION

Attached, for Supervisor Don Knabe's consideration, is a draft letter thanking the ASPCA for its generous donation. The Department requests that a letter of thanks be sent to Abigail Wolf, ASPCA, Director, National Shelter Outreach Programs, Post Office Box 61379, Durham, North Carolina 27715-1379.

Respectfully submitted


Marcia Mayeda
Director

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer
Auditor-Controller

DRAFT LETTER

[12 OCT 04]

Abigail Wolf
ASPCA
Director
National Shelter Outreach Programs
Post Office Box 61379
Durham, North Carolina 27715-1379

Dear Ms. Wolf:

The Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County gratefully accepted your organization's generous donation of \$15,000 to provide low-cost spay and neuter services to the owners of dogs and cats in the Antelope Valley of Los Angeles County.

Our Board has long recognized the importance of programs such as the one sponsored by the ASPCA in helping to control pet overpopulation and reducing the number of unwanted dogs and cats that have to be humanely euthanized in the nation's animal shelters each year.

ASPCA's leadership in this program demonstrates your organization's continued commitment to the welfare of animals in the United States and is evidence of the foresight and creativity ASPCA brings to pet care and pet ownership.

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, I thank you for your timely and helpful donation to the Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control, which will oversee this effective community service program.

Sincerely,

Don Knabe
Chairman
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

November 15, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
Room 383, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012



Dear Supervisors:

We are pleased to inform you about two special pet population programs, both directed at the Antelope Valley, in which our agency is partnering with various animal welfare foundations.

Marcia Mayeda
Director

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On Saturday, November 20 and Sunday, November 21, our Lancaster Shelter will be one of three locations in the Antelope Valley selected as the site for free spaying/neutering and free rabies shots for dogs.

This special program, a joint cooperative effort by the Amanda Foundation, the Sam Simon Foundation, Western University and Actors and Others for Animals, will feature on-site spaying and neutering. Both the Sam Simon Foundation and Western University will station mobile spay/neuter clinics in the parking lots of Food 4 Less markets in Palmdale and Lancaster.

The veterinary medical clinic at our Lancaster Shelter will be staffed by a veterinarian paid for by Actors and Others for Animals. That organization is particularly targeting spaying and neutering for Rottweilers and Pit Bulls. Publicity for this two-day event is being handled by the Amanda Foundation.

And, as you know from its placement on the Board agenda for Nov. 16, the department is asking for permission to accept a \$15,000 grant from the ASPCA and Fresh Step Cat Litter to pay for a long-term cat spay-and-neuter program, targeting cat owners in the Antelope Valley.

Once the Board has approved acceptance of this grant funding, preparations for the program can begin. This effort will involve low-cost spaying and neutering for cats kept in Antelope Valley and is slated to begin early next year.

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Ordinarily our agency charges between \$20 and \$25 to perform sterilization surgery on cats. But, using the grant funding to extend the reach of this program, we will charge only \$10 per animal, regardless of gender.

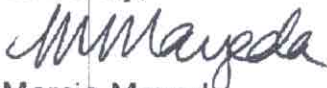
As an additional incentive, the Animal Care Foundation is partially subsidizing rabies and pet health care shots. Ordinarily, these shots would cost \$16 per animal but, thanks to the support of the foundation, that cost will be reduced to only \$5 each.

We expect to use the ASPCA/Fresh Step grant funding to offer reduced cost spay and neuter surgeries on a once-a-week basis with the goal of treating 400 female and 250 male cats over a six-month period.

Since the targeted population of female cats has the potential of producing as many as 6,000 kittens, we expect this program to have a direct impact on reducing the number of unwanted cats and kittens coming into our Lancaster Shelter.

If you have any questions about either of these programs, please contact me at (562) 728-4610.

Sincerely,



Marcia Mayeda
Director

c: David Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer
Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer